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Sadat death threatens the powder keg

...ck and sorrow are by no means ...e only sentiments prompted by ...assassination of Egypt's President ... His death, that of a man who ...t so hard to end the use of force, ...have unforeseeable consequences.

...e hail of gunfire in which he died ...nothing if not gunfire aimed point-...at a powder keg.

...e Camp David agreement and pro-...so far towards peace in the Middle ...are inseparably linked with the ...of Anwar Sadat.

...e inaugurated the peace process in ...ember 1977 by courageously visiting ...salem and maintained it in the face ...hestic opposition and opposition ...the entire Arab world.

...en Egypt's co-signatory Israel made ...too easy for Sadat to stand by ...peace policy as resolutely as he did.

...ce the end of 1977 the world has ...worried that Sadat might die, either

IN THIS ISSUE

...ness or by an assassin's bullet, and ...opes of peace in the Middle East ...be dashed.

...at, for that matter, was a peace ... that was backed on the one side ...ly by one man?

...ce has always been worth some-... however, and in this instance it ...nd quiet on at least one of the ...Middle East fronts.

... this some of the credit is undoub-... due to Israeli Premier Menachem ... too.

...e peace and quiet on one front ...certainly significant until the assas-...ion; maybe they will retain impor-... even though Camp David has yet ...e emulated by others in the Middle ...

...ptimistic expectations of the Camp ...d agreement exercising a widespread ...have not been fulfilled.

...dat enjoyed a considerable advan-... over Begin, whose forces had successively to withdraw. He could offer to the Egyptian people the prospect of regaining all that had been lost in the 1967 war.

...E GERMAN TRIBUNE is conduc...g a readership survey. With some ...ies this week a postcard is included. ...ase fill it in and return as quickly as ...sible. DO NOT fill in the card if ...u have already done so this year.

In a few months Israel is due to evacuate the eastern half of the Sinai. After the Israeli withdrawal President Sadat is said to have intended retiring from political life and going down in Egyptian history as the leader who had negotiated this success.

Will evacuation now go ahead according to schedule? It is hard to say. In retrospect it is equally hard to say whether any other politician in Cairo could so successfully have played a hand containing little but this one undeniable trump card.

Play it Sadat certainly did, in the face of varying hostility on the part of the entire Arab world.

A number of Egyptian politicians resigned from public life rather than follow in President Sadat's footsteps to Camp David.

This hostility was nurtured mainly by Egypt's western neighbour, Libya. Colonel Gaddafi, obsessed by a pan-Arab sense of mission, was the mainspring of the rejectionist front.

Yasser Arafat's PLO or President Assad's Syria came a poor second to the Libyan leader in anti-Camp David zeal.

Had Colonel Gaddafi ever taken President Sadat prisoner he would doubtless have court-martialled and shot him without further ado. As it was, after the assassination Colonel Gaddafi's radio station promptly announced, in jubilation, that the "dirty face" had disappeared. This only goes to show how much the Libyan leader hated President Sadat, but it would be going out on a limb to infer that Libya had anything to do with the assassination. There is no clear evidence to support this claim yet and maybe there never will be. But Colonel Gaddafi certainly has no compunction in assassinating people whose views are not to his liking. Not long ago he detailed official killer commandos to assassinate in several Western countries people who had fallen into disfavour. But President Sadat's assassins were just as likely to have been recruited from the ranks of those who were not well disposed towards the Egyptian leader in his own country.



Mr Hosni Mubarak, who succeeds the late Anwar Sadat as President of Egypt, talks to Bonn President Karl Carstens and Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who were in Cairo for the funeral. (Photo: dpa)

He had just ordered energetic action to be taken against trouble-makers at home, especially militant Moslems. So the killers could as well have fired in the name of Allah as in that of the Libyan leader.

There is no shortage of Moslems who, fired by the Iranian revolution, would take arms in the name of the Prophet against a Mohammedan who made common cause with the Jews.

Which explanation is nearer the truth is hard to say at the time of writing, but there can be no denying the upset the assassination has caused both in the Middle East and over large areas of the globe.

The news was greeted with anxious comments by many politicians and pandemonium on Western money markets.

There have been a number of developments in the Middle East in recent years that seemed to have made peace more distant and not a more immediate prospect.

This seems sure to be so of President Sadat's assassination. The echo is long likely to reverberate to the detriment of peace.

Mr Begin has lost not only a friend but his only ally in the Arab camp. Will Sadat's successor follow in his footsteps in respect of Israel?

And if he fails to do so, will Israel not grow, understandably perhaps, even more inflexible and uncompromising?

The United States stands guarantor of the Camp David agreement. What if feet are dragged in the Sinai, as some commentators already fear?

Might it not be beyond even America's power to keep both sides at one conference table while at the same time setting up an anti-Soviet defence front with Saudi Arabian assistance?

Moscow is, after all, sure to try and capitalise on the new situation.

One question after another comes to mind, and all of them are of greater importance for the future of both the world at large and the Middle East in particular than the identity of President Sadat's assassins and the men who put them up to it.

Reiner Dederichs

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 7 October 1981)



Rustic reflections

They couldn't have got on better together. President Mitterrand, of France (right) and Bonn Chancellor Schmidt at M. Mitterrand's country estate. (Story page 2) (Photo: dpa)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Mitterrand and Schmidt get together with the personal touch

President Mitterrand and Chancellor Schmidt have hit it off better than many worried forecasts had made it seem possible.

At Latché, M. Mitterrand's country estate, they found time to get to know one another. They were on cordial, first-name terms when they met the Press.

Herr Schmidt was relaxed and cheerful. So was his host. It was clear as they chatted and strolled round the estate how relieved they were to have made friends.

It seemed somewhat improbable after the proverbial ties of personal friendship between the Chancellor and M. Mitterrand's predecessor, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

Herr Schmidt seems from the start to have assessed President Mitterrand more accurately than many a pundit well versed in the French Socialist leader's life and work had done.

So on his first visit to M. Mitterrand after the campaign support he lent his opponent, M. Giscard d'Estaing, Herr Schmidt instinctively dealt with his host as a Frenchman and a statesman.

It was, in the circumstances, a surprisingly free and easy encounter, and the Chancellor was well advised to steer clear of any temptation to sound out Socialist or Social Democratic views held incommon.

This was what Willy Brandt had done, with growing perplexity. Even worse, he might have tried to explain why he had taken one course of action or another in the past.

Had he done so, the personal relationship between Helmut Schmidt and François Mitterrand could not possibly have developed as it has.

When M. Mitterrand took office as French head of state he took on a new role, changing, as each passing day has shown, from a party leader to the President of France as a whole.

At least half a dozen of his Ministers have undergone similar changes, especially left-wing socialist Jean-Pierre Chevenement at Research and Technology and Defence Minister Charles Hernu.

M. Chevenement has taken to rephrasing management statements on behalf of nuclear power, while M. Hernu is reported to have made comments that would have done a right-winger proud.

M. Mitterrand has taken to disregarding points that were once, either in speech or in writing, firm features of the Socialist manifesto.

He is evidently undismayed that this change has upset many of the idealistic young Socialists, many of them teachers, who make up more than 100 members of the new National Assembly.

There is no longer any mention of the moral aspects of arms exports and of possible export restrictions; they would wreak havoc with job creation schemes.

The nuclear power programme has been taken over virtually lock, stock and barrel from the previous government. There is no longer any mention of the referendum envisaged in the Socialist Party manifesto. Industry needs power, so there it is.

Conscription has not been cut, the underground nuclear test programme is to continue and M. Mitterrand has gone all out in favour of Nato missile modernisation and against the Soviet Union.

The Gaullist cult of maintaining an independent French nuclear deterrent has likewise been maintained.

Yet M. Mitterrand has made good without delay a number of campaign promises: to abolish the death penalty, to decentralise government, to nationalise major industries and to carry out all manner of welfare measures.

But he has set aside everything that he felt was party-political ballast in [...]ation to his task of representing F[...] interests to the world and, at time[...] himself.

General de Gaulle likewise once [...]mised the French he would hold on [...] Algeria even though he had long kn[...] he would have to grant it independen[...]

Some may call it lack of principle [...] opportunism. Others may see it as [...] vice to the nation or looking after [...] riding interests. It is certainly p[...] for strategy over tactics.

As did the General, President Mi[...]rand rates visions more highly than [...]rizons that can be seen with the n[...] eye, and policies of this kind are im[...]sible without a modicum of ruthless[...]

In this M. Mitterrand differs from [...] predecessor, M. Giscard d'Estaing, [...] all too often wanted to keep every[...] happy and grew confused.

Helmut Schmidt has to defend hi[...]self from attacks on all sides in the S[...] and in the Bonn Bundestag. When [...] he takes prompt action he is accused [...] authoritarianism. Who could blame [...] for glancing enviously across the R[...] to neighbouring France now and agai[...]

France is different, politically in [...]ticular. There once was a time w[...] Herr Schmidt judged France by [...] yardstick of his own political views. [...] was dubbed *le Feldwebel* for his pain[...]

Now that he accepts the French [...] French conditions for what they ar[...] is simply "Helmut" — first for Gis[...] now for Mitterrand.

Lutz Krusch[...]

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 October 1[...])

Chinese bent on economic reforms, says Genscher

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has returned from Peking convinced that Chinese leaders have become *much more concerned about solving their country's problems, especially economic problems, than they were.*

By economic development and peace safeguards China hopes to ward off the Soviet hegemonism about which it is so worried.

In years gone by Herr Genscher, like many other visitors to the Chinese capital, had been told time and again that a Third World War was inevitable.

This time the remark was not even made once. Instead, his opposite numbers repeatedly stressed their desire for peace.

Herr Genscher attributes this to Peking's economic priorities as laid down by the Chinese strong man, Deputy Chairman Deng Xiaoping.

Mr Deng told him just before he left that China must now make good 10 years of cultural revolution and tackle economic reconstruction wholeheartedly.

What that meant was already clear to the Bonn delegation:

- Development of the consumer goods industry and a corresponding realignment of heavy industry.
- Modernisation of China's machinery and equipment.
- The quest for more economic sources of energy.
- And improvements to the country's infrastructure.

This so-called real adjustment of previous high-flying economic plans has led to cutbacks in China's international economic cooperation.

But Premier Zhao Ziyang left Herr Genscher in no doubt that curent plans left ample leeway for cooperation with German industry.

Contrary to past preferences, China is now even keen to raise loan facilities to finance development.

To the relief of German industrialists accompanying the Foreign Minister, the Peking leaders promised no longer simply to cancel existing contracts with West German companies that no longer tallied with current plans.

Instead, contracts would be allowed to run over a longer period. Herr Genscher said he appreciated this gesture and felt it was better to fulfil contracts belatedly than to scrap them entirely.

He was impressed by the emphasis his hosts gave on more than one occasion to the stability China had regained. This was, he felt, a ign of growing self-assurance.

Wei Guoging, deputy chairman of the National People's Congress, described the situation as follows:

"If the peasants are satisfied, China is stable. And the peasants are satisfied."

In the foreign policy context Herr Genscher noted that the Chinese all but attached greater importance to Europe than to Nato.

That was why they were strongly in favour of Bonn's bid to set up a European Union. One leading Chinese politician said that if the Soviet Union were to conquer Europe it would control the world.



Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher with host Deng Xiaoping, Chinese deputy premier, in Peking. (Photo: dpa)

That was why European security [...] of such crucial importance.

This line of argument showed th[...] had been no change in Peking's opp[...]tion to Soviet strivings for hegemony, [...] though Herr Genscher felt his Chin[...] counterpart, Mr Huang Hua, adopted [...] more moderate attitude towards Mosco[...] on the second day of their talks than [...] the first.

There can certainly be no doubt th[...] the Chinese leaders are nowadays, e[...]dently for tactical reasons, readier th[...] in the past to come to terms w[...] Bonn's *Ostpolitik*.

At one stage they were given [...] saying that Bonn's policy was based [...] illusions. This argument was no lon[...] heard, even though Herr Genscher [...]pressly called for consideration to [...] given to Moscow's security interests to[...]

Mr Deng's final comment was: "Yo[...] talks have shown that we have the sa[...] views on many international issues."

Foreign Minister Huang Hua conclu[...]ed that coordination between Bonn [...] Peking in international affairs was b[...] feasible and desirable.

Bernt Conra[...]

(Die Welt, 9 October 19[...])

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[HO]ME AFFAIRS

Government looks for the compromise

[...] 250,000 people are estimated [...] turned out in Bonn to demon[strate ag]ainst the deployment of nuclear [...]. Despite the size of the rally [there wa]s no violence. Speakers, inclu[ding pol]iticians from both coalition par[ties, the]ologians and trade unionists, [called fo]r nuclear disarmament in both [Eastern an]d Western Europe.

[...] peace movement's opposition to [...]'s modernise-and-negotiate de[...] causing all sorts of problems [...] Social Democrats.

[...] one hand, the government is [...] its obligations in the Western [...] On the other it has to try and [...]odate disarmament demands by [...]ers.

[...]ince 1979, when, in a majority [...] SPD congress approved of the [...]ision, there has been growing [...]n within the party to the envi[...]tioning in Germany of Ameri[...] missiles should hoped-for ne[...] with the Soviets not lead to [...]val of Russian SS-20 missiles [...] Europe.

[...] government is now seeking a [...] the road course between pre[...] military balance of power and [...] urgent demands for disarma[...]

[...] Social Democrats have de[...] the government line and [...] peace movement, unperturbed [...] fact that they will be in the [...] of the German Communist [(D]KP) and its subsidiary organisa[...] — all of which are financed by [...]din.

[...]assive support by the East Bloc [...] the peace movement demon[...] in Bonn on 10 October clearly [...] who hopes to derive the most [...] from it.

[...] so, it would be taking the easy [...] to see the movement in this [...]. This would be tantamount to [...]ing the deep-rooted desire for [...] among the young.

[...]ction of the movement is fueled [...] Christian-utopian longing for peace, [...]alism that seeks a life without [...] and wants to make this the [...] principle of politics.

[...] the fact that this longing for [...] is being politically manipulated [...]sed, it has become obvious that [...] movement idealists are undaunted [...] possibility of serving alien inter[...]

[...]stic pacifism has always sought [...]ance with the left. After all, no[...] more vociferous in calling for so[...]stice and friendship among peo[...] and nothing equals the left in its [...]n of militarism.

[...] same token, no other grouping [...]iously overlooks the arms build[...] the East Bloc and the economic [...] this has caused.

[...] idealists are allowed to ignore [...]. But not the SPD leadership.

[...] Democratic leaders know that [...] peace movement is being abused [...] manipulated and that both the par[...]tary and the extra-parliamentary [...] are making an all-out effort [...] about a reversal of the Nato de[...]

[...] Eppler has already announced that he will make a bid to that effect at the next SPD party congress despite the fact that this would place the coalition in jeopardy.

This undermining of the SPD's basis as a government party has meanwhile triggered the alarm for Chancellor Schmidt and his cabinet.

They now want to be more militant in defending the government's position against the onslaught of the left.

But this belated effort is now at risk because SPD Chairman Willy Brandt seems to have adopted an ambivalent stance between the government wing and its opposition among party left wingers.

Brandt does not want to isolate the SPD from the peace movement. Neither does he want to weaken the government. But the two objectives are irreconcilable.

After resigning as Chancellor in 1974, Brandt said that the SPD must become a party with an integrating effect that can absorb as many groupings and individuals as possible.

Right now, this idea seems to have gained a certain priority for him over the risk of narrowing the government's scope of action or even causing its fall.

Quest for peace . . . demonstrators in Bonn. (Photo: Sven Simon)

Perhaps he believes that the Social-Liberal coalition is nearing its end anyway.

The opening up of the SPD for alternative movements of all kinds would bring the young generation that has been drifting away from the party back into the fold, as happened with the extra-parliamentary opposition of the 1960s.

A thus rejuvenated SPD could naturally not tolerate Schmidt as Chancellor nor could it support the market economy policy of the current coalition government. The same goes for the present government's policy of maintaining a military balance of power.

With Eppler as the spearhead and Brandt as the moderator, the SPD now appears to be headed for a post-Schmidt era in which everything will be different — and this will probably include the party cards of those in government.

Sigmar Hellman

(Mannheimer Morgen, 3 October 1981)

The role of a public demonstration

Bonn's response to the peace march smacks of a laager mentality.

Protest tends to cause jitters, and dissent gets people worked up.

But as if the Cabinet did not have enough to deal with on day-to-day issues, it now has to contend with moodiness and apprehension in its ranks.

Though such demonstrations are at odds with a technocratic concept, they are in keeping with the concept of democracy.

A very erudite German strategist recently deplored the excessive politicising of military technology issues — as if politicising were not part of any democratic setup and, indeed, a virtue worthy of respect. It is not the people's function to make life easy for politicians.

We have weathered the anti-nuclear campaign of the 1950s, the movement against the emergency laws and the anti-Vietnam demonstrations.

And we should not permit ourselves to be ruffled by this latest wave of protest. We should master it — and do so without the irritability Berlin's ex-Mayor Klaus Schütz displayed when he put the anti-Vietnam War demonstrators on the carpet, saying: "Just look at these characters."

We should cope with protest movements without Nixon's outrage when he wanted to recruit "tough guys" to disperse protest rallies. Our government must not react with self-pity just because citizens take to the streets to oppose its policy.

And we must shed the hypocritical contention that fundamental issues concerning the nation must be dealt with in the Bundestag and not in the streets.

Nobody has the slightest reason to be ashamed of a mass demonstration in which German citizens call for peace. The world still remembers the goose-stepping of the 1930s — so much so that we should welcome peace demonstrations.

And what does it matter that there will be Communists marching along on 10 October and that some of the participants in the march might unwittingly become Moscow's stooges?

We would be in a sorry state if we tried to suppress criticism of our national policy only because such criticism coincides with that of our enemies.

In last year's national elections, the German Communist Party (DKP) cornered a meagre 71,600 votes. But the desire for peace is something that motivates hundreds of thousands if not millions of our fellow citizens and they cannot be brushed aside as "fellow travellers."

And the fact that some 50 SPD members of the Bundestag and about a dozen FDP MPs intend to join the march is also no disaster. It only shows that our politicians and statesmen still have peace at heart. In fact, even Chancellor Schmidt could sign the declaration of the SPD participants in the demonstration.

And if the fact that Eppler is to address the rally shocks the Chancellor, why did he not suggest Willy Brandt as the main speaker?

The fact that MPs are taking part in the demonstration offsets some of the one-sidedness that characterises some of the groupings in the peace movement.

Helmut Schmidt's government has done more to keep disarmament talks going and promote détente than the peace movement gives him credit for.

It was this government that made the Nato decision to revamp the Euromissiles and two-track decision by adding a disarmament component.

It is also this government that keeps pressing the nuclear powers to negotiate an arms limitation deal. Schmidt's government does not need to prove its goodwill. It's the Kremlin's turn now.

There can also be no denying that there is a fair bit of hysteria in—the—Peace Movement. Among its motivating forces is not only *angst*. There is in fact a neurotic *angst*, the *angst* of not wanting to know any better. But there is also the *angst* caused by the evident fragility of political structures in our day and age.

Governments should be the last to be surprised about this. Having for many years debated the threat which the SS-20 missiles pose, it is only natural that many people should in fact feel threatened.

And when the US defence secretary in his recently released 99-page picture book depicts the Soviets as being 10-foot tall without putting things into perspective by describing the West's own military strength, it is not surprising if this engenders fear and the feeling of being threatened. And this fear, in turn, generates defeatism.

A psychologist recently hit the nail on the head when he likened mass demonstrations to a best seller: "They meet with response because they express what moves and concerns people at the moment."

Peaceful demonstrations are a vital part of any democracy. They are indicators of its strength.

It is a democratic privilege to sign appeals and to disagree with current opinions and policies.

We would really have reason to worry if the Bavarian example were to be emulated elsewhere and if citizens were barred from being teachers only because they signed the Krefeld Appeal.

To permit demonstrators to demonstrate is the constitutional if irksome duty of the authorities. To keep demonstrations peaceful is the difficult task of the organisers.

Theo Sommer

(Die Zeit, 9 October 1981)

■ POLITICS

Schmidt and Brandt unbury the hatchet

Helmut Schmidt and Willy Brandt have finally unburied the hatchet they interred in 1974. The Chancellor has taken up the challenge which he feels is represented by Herr Brandt's bid to accommodate as wide a range of views as possible within the party.

Herr Schmidt can rely on a widespread malaise among traditional Social Democrat voters who view with growing suspicion and lack of understanding Herr Brandt's bid to canvass support from young voters attracted by alternatives to the established political parties.

This malaise among traditional SPD voters was to blame in no small measure for the Social Democrats crushing defeat in the Lower Saxony local government elections.

The clash between Chancellor Schmidt and SPD chairman Brandt is a conflict within the SPD that has gone too far to be settled by the usual compromise formula.

The Chancellor is worried about the party's ability to retain power in Bonn until 1984 and the end of the present Bundestag's term.

The Social Democrats, he feels, must rely on the trade unions and on the Free Democrats' readiness to continue in joint harness with the SPD for support.

Herr Brandt, in contrast, is worried about party unity and the future of an SPD the wings of which are extended increasingly far apart.

The Chancellor thus acts as a head of government who has to demonstrate energetic leadership or else jeopardise both his reputation and the coalition with the FDP's Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

The SPD leader, who for a long time saw his role as that of giving the Chancellor backing, is now concentrating on the party, which is threatening to come apart at the seams.

This state of affairs is the result of adverse political developments, either self-imposed or external, and it is a serious threat.

Herr Brandt is admittedly motivated in part by a desire for harmony that at times makes him paper over contradictions with nebulous turns of phrase.

This he does both to conceal them from himself and to from the public.

As a party leader he does not, in any case, feel in a position to simply write off certain groups, let alone to scare them off.

In the days when he was both SPD leader and Bonn Chancellor he succeeded in gaining the support of a majority of the Extra-Parliamentary Opposition, Germany's counterpart to the class of '68. They were not alone in being won over for what, in the final analysis, was the state and the existing system of government; in the 50s the Social Democrats had successfully integrated the nuclear protest movement.

Herr Brandt is not motivated solely by sentimental memories. It takes little more than elementary arithmetic to realise that if the SPD is to continue polling over 40 per cent it cannot afford to dispense with the votes of the younger generation.

At the same time the Social Democrats cannot afford to dispense with their traditional voters either.

What the SPD leader is attempting to do is no less than to regain for the conventional democratic spectrum the support of a younger generation that is sick and tired of established party politics.

It remains to be seen whether he will succeed, especially as the Lower Saxony polls showed that it is not an attitude shared by traditional SPD voters.

They are increasingly less keen because Bonn politics has steadily less to offer them in each and every sector.

The days of welfare bonanzas are over, and unemployment hits SPD supporters hardest.

Foreign policy holds forth little hope of respite either. Talks on arms limitation may have been resumed by Washington and Moscow but it remains to be seen what headway they will make and whether detente stands any chance of a fresh lease of life.

It is not the sort of time for new ventures and experiments. They call for a general feeling of ease and liberal sentiment, whereas the prevailing feeling is a sense of crisis.

The current trend calls for clear political leadership.

This is very much in keeping with Chancellor Schmidt's temperament. Unlike Herr Brandt, he is not predisposed towards allowing his subordinates a long leash.

Besides, he may be assumed to be working on the mark he hopes to mark in history. If he has to step down, he will want to step down fighting.

The determination with which he seems intent on ending disputes within the party is partly because he has realised, in his heart of hearts, that his career is over.

The Chancellor is no longer canvassing for majority support within the SPD. He is no longer on the lookout for compromises. He seems hell-bent on confrontation.

It is the beginning, as it were, of a Luther-style final bow modelled on Luther's famous words "Here I stand I can do no other."

If he is forced to resign he will blame the Social Democrats in general, and particularly the left wing, Willy Brandt, in particular.

Thus the power struggle between the two, which could so easily end in the ouster of the current Bonn coalition, assumes almost tragic proportions.

Under pressure from political responsibility in Bonn the clash is already serious. It needs little imagination to envisage what might happen to the SPD in opposition.

The Social Democrats, a party claiming to represent the interests of the people as a whole and not merely one social group, would tear themselves to shreds.

Joachim Worthmann

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 2 October 1981)



Peter Glotz . . . revealed the d[...]

(Photo: P[...]

SPD unveils plan to brighte[n] up the party image

DIE WELT

The Social Democrats have decided on some structural changes to improve their tarnished public image.

SPD business manager Peter Glotz announced details of a seven-point programme in Bonn after a two-day conference of party officials.

- Fifty per cent of directly elected conference delegates at sub-regional level are to be either labour representatives or works councilmen.
- Gatherings such as the Peace Forum are to become an established feature of party organisation to enable the SPD to enter into debate with political opponents and members of the public.
- In a media-dominated society it was important to consolidate party work at local branch level, so next all SPD sub-regions are to run seminars open to young people (not necessarily members).
- The SPD is to launch a W[...] Dröscher award scheme to p[...] party-political good conduct ov[...] above clashes over power. The [...] will be for the most convincing e[...] of credibility in party life.
- A pilot project is to be und[...] to see whether selection pro[...] within the SPD might not be a s[...] tory means of screening major [...] holders such as burgomasters and [...] destag deputies.
- A historical commission is [...] established to draw the party's at[...] to dates and developments, with [...] reference to regional and local hist[...]
- Interest groups within the SP[...] no longer to be organised from lo[...] national level in a uniform manne[...] there are no plans to discipline in [...] way existing interest groups, such a[...] Young Socialists.

(Die Welt, 6 October [...]

Free Democrats put the left foot forward

The Free Democrats, as was only to be expected in view of the big peace demonstration in Bonn, felt duty-bound to outline their views on peace policy too.

Left-wing Free Democrats in the Bundestag, following in the Social Democratic left-wingers' footsteps, collecting signatures in support of the demonstration.

That forced the FDP leadership's hand and obliged leading Free Democrats to draw up a party line on the issue.

West Berlin FDP national executive committeeman William Borm, 86 and still well left-of-centre, made an impassioned appeal to the rank-and-file to take part in the demonstration.

It was an appeal expressly aimed to collide with the policy pursued by SPD Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and his FDP deputy, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

In a letter to 1,600 FDP office-holders Herr Borm criticised Herr Genscher for not refuting allegations that he had been giving the Christian Democrats the glad eye. "What has been lacking," he wrote, "is a word of clarification by the FDP leader going over and above the cliché of determination to maintain the SPD-FDP coalition in Bonn until 1984 and including events that have occurred in recent weeks."

Herr Borm called on Free Democrats to renew the coalition from the grass roots up and sounded a warning note against thoughtlessly jeopardising SPD-FDP ties.

Ensuring that the peace was kept and pursuing reform policies aimed at extending freedom remained original objectives it was worth continuing the coalition for, he wrote.

This latest move by Herr Borm was ignored by the party leadership, which decided no comment was best. But FDP leaders felt they now had to clarify party policy on the controversial peace demonstration.

A platform debate on the subject was planned, to be attended by Herr Genscher, by FDP Bundestag leader Wolfgang Mischnick and by FDP general secretary Günter Verheugen.

Herr Verheugen said the specific aims of the Bonn demonstration did not tally with the peace policy pursued by the SPD-FDP coalition government [...] Bonn.

Free Democrats who chose to [...] part ought not to make light of th[...] that the party was fully in favour o[...] policy pursued by the Bonn governm[...]

So Herr Borm as an FDP demo[...] tor was told to see himself as out [...] limb from his party, but this se[...] unlikely to dissuade all FDP membe[...] the Bundestag from vying with [...] left-wingers for voters who migh[...] prove of the demo.

There remained the temptation [...] roughshod over the difficulties by [...] ly saying that there could be no[...] wrong in demonstrating for peace.

Gunter Huonker, Minister of S[...] the Chancellor's Office, told the [...] destag that it was less the desir[...] peace than a suitable choice of m[...] by which to keep the peace that m[...] ed. The Bonn demonstration gave [...] fears that the West's position was [...] weakened and the East's to be stre[...] ened when it came to safegua[...] peace.

The SPD Chancellor and the [...] leaders thus agree on this point [...] there are a wide range of views in [...] respective parties.

Politicians seem to be making [...] weather of their trade at present.

Peter Ho[...]

(Nordwest Zeitung, 2 Octob[...]

[P]EOPLE IN POLITICS

[E]rhard Eppler, the rebel with a cause

[Wh]en Helmut Schmidt called on Willy Brandt it was one of the [ta]lks the two hold before meetings [of the] SPD leadership.

[...] Brandt, the SPD leader, then had [...] with Erhard Eppler, the Baden-[Württ]emberg SPD leader and national [executi]ve committeeman.

[It] was not a routine encounter. It [was sp]ecially arranged by Herr Brandt to [...]d defuse the clash between [Schmi]dt and Eppler.

[It] is a clash that is proving increasing[ly bur]densome for the Social Democrats, [...]y reflecting, as it does, the clash of [view]points among the SPD leadership in [...]al.

[Bu]t despite Herr Brandt's proverbial [...]nce as an integrating factor in the [...] he seems unlikely to succeed in [reconc]iling the two sides this time.

[Th]e rift between Chancellor Schmidt [and] Herr Eppler has grown too wide to [be br]idged by powers of persuasion, no [matt]er how convincingly argued.

[Erh]ard Eppler has for some time [been], as he sees it, a counterweight to [Helmu]t Schmidt in the SPD.

[H]e does more than espouse views op[posed] to those held by the Chancellor [on i]ssues ranging from armament and [...]y to economic growth.

[He] also aims to establish majorities in [the] SPD for issues that did not pre[viously] command them, as he puts it.

[A po]litician with such ambitions will be well aware of what he is letting himself in for: controversy, confrontation and conflict.

Herr Eppler says of himself that he has developed from an adaptable young politician, who was only too willing to adapt, into an increasingly obstinate and perverse individual.

So he knows he may be in for trouble and frankly admits: "I have given up playing safe and making sure I have cover. I am simply not going to go to the trouble any longer."

Not for nothing is he at odds with, or at least a controversial figure within, the SPD leadership, especially for speaking at the Bonn peace demonstration.

But he is no longer worried. He feels he has gained a degree of inner freedom by quitting the higher echelons of political power, and this freedom makes him feel able to take criticism.

Away from the hue and cry of political power at the centre he has undergone his latest change, the latest phase that has made him what he is today.

It is an unusual development for a politician and that is what foxes and disconcerts many people who fail to see why he has made the change (and have no intention of trying).

Many people feel he is an entirely different person from the one he used to be, but in reality he has always had the makings of what he is today, although the characteristics were less marked because there was no reason why he should change.

He comes from an area in the southwest where the Black Forest slowly gives way to the bare hills of Swabia, from Dornstetten, a holiday resort of 6,000-odd people, an old church and a few fine half-timbered buildings.

His home is on the outskirts of town, in a large garden. But this part of the world is not very fertile and the people who come from it have a reputation for being stubborn and having minds of their own.

It is also an area where it is easy to be alone, and there can be no doubt that Swabia has made its mark on Erhard Eppler.

As he himself once said, his family traditions include those of a Liberal vicarage and a poor hill-farming family.

It is not just the family; he has so many hallmarks of the typical Swabian. Like many a Swabian poet and philosopher, he has long combined analysis and vision, reality and utopia.

What is more, the older he gets, the more this ability seems to govern both how he thinks and how he acts.

Personal experience has also made its mark on him, of course, especially his term at the Economic Cooperation Ministry, where he was confronted with the Third World and the catastrophes that threaten mankind.

Eppler was constitutionally disposed towards delving in greater detail into the misproportions to which development aid testified and feeling greater concern that others might have done.

Above all, he was not the man to come to terms with a state of affairs, so it is hardly surprising to find him prefacing his latest book *Wege aus der Gefahr* (Ways Out Of Danger) with the words penned by fellow-Swabian Friedrich Hölderlin:

Nah ist und schwer zu fassen der Gott. Wo aber Gefahr ist, wächst das Rettende auch (God is near yet hard to grasp, and where danger lurks, salvation too is nigh.)

A reference to his first book, published in 1968 and entitled *Ende oder Wende* (End or Turning Point), may possibly clarify what he means.

"We all pride ourselves far too much," he wrote, "on being realists. We just smile at dreamers.

"True, there is no responsible way round reality. True, wishful thinking is sure to avenge itself.

"Yet realism alone is stale when taken on its own and not exposed to the tension of utopia."

This frame of mind answers in advance the question Eppler poses, whether salvation is nigh or hope can still be said to exist.

Danger, even of apocalyptic proportions such as are conjured left, right and centre, are no longer mere strokes of fate, inevitable destiny.

They are threats with which we can deal the better, the more level-headedly we see them for what they are and the fewer the illusions with which we tackle them.

With this frame of mind it is only logical for politics to end when there is no longer any choice and no more argument about alternatives.

As he sees it, there are always alternatives. They must merely be plausibly set out. There has to be someone who puts them forward.

He feels the prevailing political system has degenerated because it has capitulated entirely to the ideology of *Sachzwang*, or objective necessity of pursuing a specific policy.

This frame of mind accounts for Eppler's opposition to and rivalry with



Erhard Eppler . . . no short-term solutions.

(Photo: Poly Press)

pragmatist Helmut Schmidt and for the function to which he feels obliged to devote himself.

Eppler's criticism of Schmidt amounts, in the final analysis, to an accusation of flogging crisis management to death and lurching from one crisis to the next, ever deeper, and without the slightest perspective.

"My criticism is that what the Chancellor is doing is no longer a policy. It is merely administration for administration's sake."

Eppler admits that Herr Schmidt has been more successful than other Western statesmen with his crisis management, "but it has been no use because no-one was clear what direction was being taken."

That is why he sees the Chancellor as "more of a cipher representing a measure of technocratical experience retaining no more than a skeleton of reform as a policy."

A key pronouncement of his is that it is not a matter of crisis management instead of reform but of dealing with crises by means of reform.

He feels duty bound to bring about changes in this, Herr Schmidt's policy. He would like to pave the way for a new and better world.

The roots of this ambition undoubtedly lie in Eppler's Protestant Christianity. Not for nothing has he taken on more Church work since resigning as SPD leader in the Stuttgart state assembly and as SPD chairman in Baden-Württemberg.

Nowadays, especially on the SPD executive, he refers more often to his Church commitments than to his party-political commitment in justifying much of what he does.

Were he not such a staunch Christian and so strongly committed to the Church much of his political work would doubtless be entirely different.

The Christian message, taken seriously, must always entail salvation, and Eppler always seems to carry the conviction of someone who believes in salvation.

Either this or his intellectual superiority is the reason why, especially as he grows older, he runs a continual risk of being intolerant and self-righteous, which makes it difficult to get through to him or to deal with him.

Outwardly, Schmidt and Eppler may be poles apart. In this respect they have much in common, which is probably why they get on so badly with each other.

They are similar in character and clash head-on. They feel they are right and aim to get justice. Both are school-

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■ THE ECONOMY

Pressure for action grows as unemployment spirals

Unemployment in Germany is rapidly climbing towards a 30-year high of 1.5 million. The present figure of 1.3 million is 400,000 more than a year ago.

Pressures to boost employment are growing. Many SPD members of parliament, supported by the trade unions, are demanding a shot in the arm by the government.

The Finance Minister, Hans Matthöfer, was once himself an ardent advocate of this. Not now.

He shrugs off appeals by saying that government action now would do little good because of the economic situation.

There are times, he says, and now is one of them, when the attempt to boost demand by additional public borrowing will remain ineffectual. The additional budgetary problems this would create would cause more harm than good.

Matthöfer is right because the idea that our high unemployment is largely due to an economic decline is wrong.

Assuming that the number of who don't want to work is negligible enough to be disregarded, there are about half a million people who cannot find work because the order books are empty.

The remaining 800,000-900,000 jobless must be seen as a hard structural core. In fact, structural unemployment has been with us here in Germany since the first oil shock.

Without much fanfare some one million new jobs have been created in this country in the past four years. Yet the unemployment rate during this time has never dropped much below four per cent.

This is accounted for by the remarkably high structural "residue" which encompasses groups that in times of over-employment always have jobs and are now unemployable. Most of these people are unskilled workers who now find it almost impossible to get work.

This is largely due to a wrong wage policy by the trade unions; They have long pursued a strategy of levelling off the wage structure by an above average increase for the lower earners. As a result, all wages were raised to approximately the same level.

This means that company wage costs for unskilled workers have risen disproportionately.

And this, in turn, has forced business to rationalise in this particular sector.

Those who lost their jobs in the process can now thank the unions, which have not acted with the social justice they always claim for themselves.

Where unemployment hits

Jobless in thousands as at middle 1981

Occupation	Jobless (thousands)
Salesmen etc.	127
Metalworkers	105
Warehousemen, drivers etc	65
Machinery, mechanical workers	64
Social workers, teachers etc	60
Building workers	52
Packers, checkers	48
Textile workers	43
Cleaners	41
Food processors	38
Workers involved with transport	38
Health service employees	37
Laboratory workers etc	29
Electrical workers	22
Workers in chemicals and synthetics	20
Others	243

JOB CENTRE

There is yet another type of structural unemployment: some 200,000 women in this country are looking for part-time work, and they are not very successful.

Experts say that job-sharing could provide a remedy here. The United States has had good experience with this system in which two or three people share one job and arrange among each other who is going to work, and when.

Our trade unions reject the system, saying that more part-time work would destroy many full-time jobs. But this need not necessarily be so.

In any event, prospects are not exactly rosy.

Bonn anticipates 1.4 or even 1.5 million jobless next year (annual average) despite the fact that the economy seems to be picking up again.

Some research institutes already predict a swift improvement, and even the Bundesbank was quite optimistic in its latest analysis.

The business community has in the past few months spoken of "remarkable progress in the structural adaptation process."

The anticipated recession this year did not materialise.

But even if the economy is shaping up again, this does not spell the end of unemployment. The labour market always reacts with a considerable time lag.

Business still has considerable labour reserves which will not disappear until industry operates at full capacity. And these reserves are particularly large now because many companies made a po[…] of hoarding skilled labour, which is [...] short supply.

But even if the economy were to [...] up gradually, there would still be mu[...] to do to improve the employment situation.

The main reason is that the peop[...] born in the high birth rate years [...] continue to crowd the labour mark[...] which means that some one million jo[...] will have to be created by 1987, and th[...] means investing heavily.

But after that time the trend on th[...] labour market will be exactly revers[...]. Towards the end of the decade Germa[...] will be faced with a drastic reduction [...] its working population.

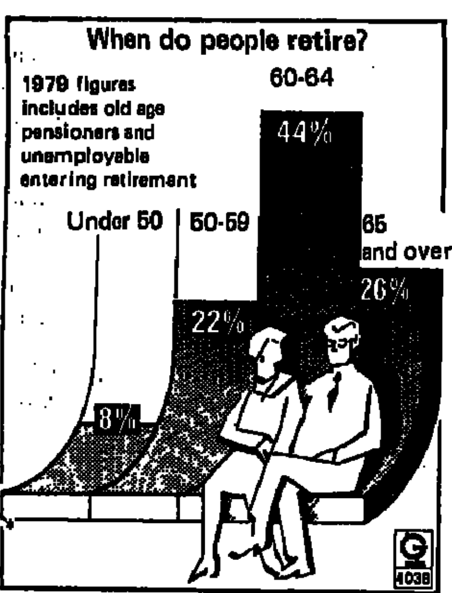
The most important task, the Instit[...] for the German Economy says, will be[...] be to make up for the lack of hum[...] labour by automation.

Only thus can we ensure our produ[...]tion potential and thus our standard o[...] living and social security.

It is obvious that Germany mus[...] make a concerted effort to stimulate th[...] business community to invest massively[...]. This presupposes that the burdens of tax[...]ation and social security contribution[...] be strictly limited. But the prospects o[...] this happening are pretty bleak.

The government's intention to restric[...] next year's deficit to DM60bn (

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Towards early retirement

The metalworkers union considers itself in the vanguard of the demand for earlier retirement.

Executive board member Hans Janssen, who is in charge of collective bargaining, says that such an arrangement in the metal industry would affect all other branches of industry and result in an easing of the labour market.

At the moment, he said, retirement at the age of 60 would affect only 131,000 people in the metal industry. This means that the cost to the employers would be relatively low in the first few years.

The metalworkers' idea is for the employers to pay 90 per cent of gross wages to those who are prepared to retire at the age of 60. In addition, they would also have to continue paying social security contributions.

Herr Janssen conceded that shorter working lives could only be achieved by moderating wage demands since the arrangement would impose a financial burden on employers.

"Our members will nevertheless be prepared to pay the price by forgoing normal wage increases," he said.

His optimism was justified by the fact that early retirement would be welcomed by those concerned and that younger workers would approve of the arrangement in the knowledge that their jobs would become more secure.

Moreover, the arrangement would amount to an act of solidarity with the jobless since many a job would become vacant.

The decision on whether this arrangement is to become part of the collective bargaining next year is still pending.

dpa

(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, 29 September 1981)

FDP's three steps to boost jobs

The Free Democrats have put forward three proposals to fight unemployment: fewer paid sick days, more job sharing and earlier retirement.

These proposals were revealed by the party's secretary-general, Günter Verheugen, and will be discussed at a party meeting later this month.

The meeting has been called for the sole purpose of discussing unemployment.

Verheugen said that conventional employment measures through additional government spending had shown no sustained effect.

The discussion proposals, he said, did not settle the issues under dispute between the FDP and SPD during their deliberations on the Bonn budget even though the question of cutbacks in unemployment benefits had not been raised.

At the time of the budget debate, the demand to that effect was aimed only at putting the budget back into order.

It was not expected that this should have any effect on the employment situation.

The reservation which was put on record during the Cabinet meeting to the effect that the FDP would, if necessary, revert to this issue remains.

In introducing days without pay in case of illness they are thinking of the first three days — it would be important that the new system applied to all sections of the working population, i.e. blue and white collar workers plus civil servants.

If legal obstacles were to preclude this arrangement for civil servants, the scheme as a whole would be in jeopardy.

The idea is that the relief provided by these days without pay should not bene[...]fit the business community only.

To unburden the Federal Labo[ur] Office, employers should in the futu[re] bear the cost of short-shift work them[...]selves. At the moment, this costs th[e] Labour Office an annual DM1.5bn.

The FDP sees job-sharing as a poss[i]bility of providing more part-time work[...].

But this proposal is bound to lead t[o] a collision with the unionist wing of th[e] SPD.

The trade unions have already sai[d] that job-sharing would in fact destro[y] jobs because it would relieve employe[rs] of the necessity to maintain contingent[...] staff as stand-ins in case of illness and vaca[...]tion.

So far as shorter working life is co[n]cerned, the Liberals envisage reduce[d] pensions for those retiring at the age o[f] 55.

In any event, they give priority t[o] shorter working lives over shorter wo[rking] weeks.

Günter Badins[...]

(Die Welt, 6 October 19[81])

[FIN]ANCE

Washington tones down criticism of IMF

[...]l meeting of the International [...] Fund and the World Bank in [...]n marked the first confront[...] both developed and developing [...] with the economic ideology of [...]n Administration.

[...]Washington administration's at[...]e towards the International [...] Fund and the World Bank has

[...]n Treasury Under Secretary [...]nkel had accused the two in[...] of taking the easy way out in [...] of public funds to solve the [...] problems of developing coun[...]

[...]s at the time interpreted as an [...] by Washington to avoid its in[...]l obligations and to restrict it[...]king its own wounds.

[...]llowing the meeting, a far mil[...]n of Mr Sprinkel's criticism is [...]remains.

[...]prompted the chairman of the [...] Bank, Wilfried Guth, to say: [...] won't be eaten as hot as Mr [...] has cooked it.

[...] now become obvious that Wash[...] is not trying to avoid its inter[...] obligations.

[...] in its domestic economic poli[...] Washington administration has [...]ideas as to how to cope with in[...] problems. The pivotal point [...] American concept is the tenet [...]eloping countries must not rely [...] only to keep their difficulties [...]lerable limits.

[...]ca wants the Third World coun[...] make a bigger effort and tell [...]ople to roll up their sleeves and [...] job at hand.

[...] Washington administration [...] no opportunity to let it be [...] that it is time for a change in [...]ment policy.

[...]s also the stance Secretary of [...]sury Regan took in the World [...]velopment Committee.

[...]ington has meanwhile rejected [...]nal idea of establishing a World [...] subsidiary that would specialise in [...] issues — an idea widely debated [...]. It had become obvious that [...] a new institution was not tan[...] to obtaining aditional funds.

[...] the fathers of the idea that emerged at the 1980 economic summit in Venice had in mind was to prompt the Opec countries to bear the brunt of the financing of the new institution.

They had hoped that a World Bank subsidiary would enlarge the credit volume although the parent institution's capital would remain unchanged.

This was probably why Britain, Germany, Canada and France favoured the scheme — to no avail. As long as the United States, the world's biggest economic power, refuses to go along, a World Bank energy subsidiary stands no chance.

The United States has already cut back on agreed-upon payments to the World Bank subsidiary IDA (International Development Agency) which grants credit to the poorest developing countries on soft terms.

As a result, IDA is already faced with difficulties.

According to the original agreement, Washington was to have provided 12.5 per cent of the necessary funding.

But due to Washington's delaying tactics, the agreement did not come into effect until August this year.

To enable IDA to honour current and future credit commitments, a number of countries (among them Japan, Britain, Canada, Sweden, France and the Federal Republic of Germany) provided bridging facilities.

But it will be impossible to pay out already envisaged loans if Washington does not abide by the agreement to pay its share in three annual instalments but insists on spreading it over four years.

Even so, America's conservative attitude has met with some understanding at the World Bank whose new head, Tom Clausen, was originally a commercial banker. He sicceeded Robert McNamara, who was dubbed a "computer with a heart."

On development policy, Clausen favours a shift towards private investment, thus supporting the American attitude.

Bonn swiftly joined in with assurances that it, too, considers private investment paramount.

But such investments are not suitable in all cases inasmuch as private capital does not necessarily tend to flow into the poorest developing countries and the energy problem as a whole cannot be solved by private money alone.

Yet there was no clash of ideologies in the various committees — only some grumbling.

The grumbling indicates that — as usual when a set routine is confronted with new ideas — a review process has set in.

In any event, the stew cooked by the Group of 24 has never been eaten as hot as it was cooked. This group is the militant voice of non-oil producing developing countries.

At one point the group demanded that the IMF be politicised in a bid to turn it into an instrument of development policy rather than a monetary institution.

The concept of giving the Fund's artificial money, the Special Drawing Rights, to Third World countries was one of the group's pet ideas.

None of this was mentioned in the group's communiqué on its Washington meeting.

All that can be distilled from the statement is a certain impatience as a result of the misery following the second oil price explosion.

And in the interim committee, where the group is represented together with the industrial nations and which has a say in decisions on the future of the IMF, the group's position has been businesslike. This is exemplified by its proposal that the growth of nominal demand is to be stemmed by a blend of monetary and fiscal policy.

In fact, both sides tried to be as businesslike as possible since neither Washington nor the developing countries want a head on collision.

But this has not changed the fact that they are natural enemies.

The non-oil producing developing countries fear that the Americans, in helping to solve their greatest problem — the reduction of current account deficits which have risen from $38bn to $83bn in the past three years — will put the emphasis on their adapting their economies to the new energy prices instead of providing more aid.

What worries the Third World nations is that they would not survive such a rough and ready cure on account of their low growth rates.

This could prove a source of conflict that could become explosive if the Americans fail to understand that there are differences between developing countries and that the poorest of them cannot manage without public sector aid.

To make this clear to Washington is almost a natural role for Germany.

Rudolf Herlt

(Die Zeit, 2 October 1981)

Continued from page 6

[...] DM70bn this year) does not [...] the prospects.

[...]t is not even certain whether this [...]tting target will be met.

[...]iscal situation thus stands in the [...]y marked reduction in interest [...]nd it is low interest rates that [...]st investments profitable in the [...]n.

[...]ever, it is quite possible that the [...] Security Pensions Fund will soon [...]d more money from employers [...]ployed.

[...]re investments also presuppose [...]ble wage levels. The situation on [...]bour market calls for a cautious [...]olicy which means that the trade [...]s will have to ensure that their [...]mands do not destroy jobs.

[...]n wage policy must be directed [...]ting employment.

"Another thing that calls for a cautious approach is the fact that our oil bill still has to be paid, and we cannot spend the money due to Opec.

The old wage formula used by the trade unions whereby demands should at least equal the increase of productivity plus inflation rate no longer applies. An ancient economic tenet has it that excess supply tends to lower prices.

In principle, this applies to the supply of labour as it does to any other commodity. And — for the time being anyway — there is a glut of labour.

The scales are weighted in favour of capital, which is needed to create more jobs and to provide German industry with energy-saving technology. In fact, capital rather than labour, will be the bottleneck of the next few years. And wage policies will have to take this into account.

Anybody calling for more investment will have to guard against policies that will cut into profits. Good profits generate healthy investments and vice versa.

It will not be easy to arrive at a viable consensus with the trade unions on this issue.

A year ago, the Council of Economic Experts said in its annual report: "A consensus on a cautious course will be the easier to achieve the less the workers gain the impression that they have to make financial sacrifices without getting more job security in return.

"It is therefore regrettable that the debate on capital formation measures to buttress the wage policy, which could play a major role in defusing the wage dispute and lead to the accumulation of more risk capital, is making no progress."

There has been no progress since then either — and time is pressing.

Paul Bellinghausen

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 25 September 1981)

Matthöfer calls for united bid against inflation

Bonn Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer has called for much more international discussion in an effort to reconcile the various national monetary policies.

Addressing the meeting of the IMF and World Bank in Washington, he also stressed the need for a concerted effort against inflation.

High interest rates, he said, had a beneficial effect in the fight against inflation (though they could hamper investment), have a negative effect on growth expectations, cause a disarray on foreign exchange markets and, above all, exacerbate the indebtedness of Third World countries.

He warned against leaving monetary policy in the lurch while fighting inflation. He also stressed the need for many countries to reduce their budgetary deficits.

Hinting at interest rates, Herr Matthöfer said that the reduction in the balance of payments and the healthy confidence in the deutschemark provided the Federal Republic of Germany with a certain monetary independence that "could enable us to lower interest rates."

Lower interest rates could boost the economy, promote investments and help reduce unemployment.

As opposed to the Washington administration, Matthöfer stressed the need for public sector development aid.

What matters now is to channel a larger portion of this money to the poorest countries that have no access to private money markets.

He pointed to Germany's past successes in the field of technical and financial cooperation with Third World countries.

Cooperation in the development sector, he said, must remain help towards self help rather than become a vehicle of foreign policy.

World Bank President Tom Clausen stressed the need to cooperate with the private sector in matters of development aid. He said the private sector represented an enormous source of investment capital and that there was much the World Bank could do in helping to expand the credit volume for developing countries.

Clausen: "We will therefore try in the next few years considerably to increase the volume of private joint financing."

Clausen termed the refusal so far by the US Congress to make already due payments to the World Bank subsidiary IDA (International Development Agency) an honest but dangerous misunderstanding regarding the true function of IDA. He emphatically defended the agency whose work, he said, was extremely efficient.

Clausen called on the developing countries to implement the necessary structural changes which, he said, required suitable political conditions to provide price incentives and boost exports.

Without in any way referring to the envisaged energy subsidiary of the World Bank, which has been rejected by Washington, he said that $3bn had been earmarked for a wide range of energy projects — an increase of 25 per cent against the previous year.

Peter J. Velte

(General-Anzeiger, 30 September 1981)

THE ENVIRONMENT

Factory turns yesterday's garbage into tomorrow's raw material

An endless succession of odds and ends rolls by on the conveyor belt: half a pair of sunglasses, a packet of sandwiches still wrapped in cellophane, lettuce leaves, a concrete block, pieces of a memo about a dispute with the borough surveyor's office, a broken lamp fitting and an empty champagne bottle.

The garbage does not just look like the contents of someone's dustbin. It is.

The scene is a brand-new factory on the outskirts of Neuss, near Düsseldorf. It is the first full-scale raw-material recycling plant in Germany.

Hellmut Trienekens runs the plant, on an 84-hectare (210-acre) site in the middle of beet fields, as a private company.

He is paid a municipal subsidy of DM20 a tonne to process Neuss's garbage.

He and a staff of 20 sort out 60 tonnes of material an hour that can be commercially recycled from the waste that runs along the conveyor belts.

Sorting and storage cost about DM40 to DM50 a tonne, so Trienekens says he has to earn between DM20 und DM30 per tonne of garbage to operate at a profit.

He designed and built the plant himself. It has twin conveyor belt systems, one for household garbage, one for industrial waste.

It had to be a do-it-yourself operation; garbage recycling plants are not yet available *off-the-peg*.

Herr Trienekens is confident he has costed the operation accurately. Time will tell. There is little else to go on, with less than 20 comparable installations in Europe.

Eight of the 20 are pilot plants testing specific procedures on a small scale. Two are in Aachen and Herne and another, full-scale unit is under construction in Herten, Westphalia.

Tübingen and Reutlingen in the south-west have joined forces to build a controversial experimental waste recycling plant, but it is still at the planning stage.

Saarberg Fernwärme AG, a piped heating company, have undertaken to build and run the Tübingen installation provided Federal government subsidies are guaranteed.

But the Federal government has said it will only honour its pledge to subsidise the experiment if building work begins before the end of this year.

Every man, woman and child in Germany accounts for about 300kg of garbage a year. Mountains of trash are accumulating while the price of energy spirals, as do prices of raw materials.

So not only environmentalists but also economists have started thinking seriously about how junk can be reprocessed. Glass manufacturers, for instance, can save 30 per cent on their power bills by melting down broken glass rather than quartz sand.

Substantial savings can also be made by recycling old iron and waste paper. What is more, land is a scarce commodity; rubbish dumps cannot be sited just anywhere.

Incineration, one alternative, has grown too expensive for many local authorities. In Neuss it is said to cost between DM50 and DM100 per tonne.

That is why only a quarter of the country's garbage is incinerated even though the thermal units per tonne correspond to 250 litres of heating oil that could be saved.

Instead, 70 per cent of an estimated annual total of 15 million tonnes of household garbage ends on rubbish tips.

Herr Trienekens is enthusiastic about trash. He already ran six private rubbish dumps when he came to terms with the Neuss authorities in 1977.

His first move was to check what people actually put in their dustbins. He found it was roughly, but only roughly, what previous countrywide surveys had indicated.

Paper and cardboard account for about 30 per cent of the contents, as does kitchen waste. Glass makes up a further nine per cent. Then come metal and plastic.

The dustbin survey was carried out in collaboration with Aachen University, for which it was a research project; for him it was economic bedrock.

Herr Trienekens says recycling plants need to be tailormade to suit the waste they handle, and the composition of garbage depends on domestic consumer habits and the categories of trade and industry in the area.

Now he knows what there is to reclaim from Neuss' garbage Herr Trienekens hopes to recycle about half the city's 135,000 tonnes of trash a year.

He will be doing so using human sorters, sieves, jets and the biological principles on which compost reactors work.

He expects to recycle about ... paper that is thrown away, ... tonnes; 60 to 70 per cent of the ... 4,000 tonnes; 80 per cent of the ... 5,000 tonnes; 2,500 tonnes of glas... metals and 35,000 tonnes of compo...

Much of the compost will be u... cover and plant vegetation on ... rubbish tips.

A useful side-effect of sorting ... the trash for which no use can be ... is shredded, saving space on the ... tip, about 70 per cent, accor... Neuss corporation's Bernhard Wi...

The lifespan of Neuss's rubb... will be extended by five to 25 ye... sulting in a further saving of ta... money.

In three or four years Herr T... kens' plant should be running at ... it. He has invested DM13.5m i... development and equipment, in... DM5m paid by the Bonn Research ... istry.

The main problem in running ... plant at a profit is not so much the ... cessing techniques he and his staff ... devised, he says, but in finding ... term customers for the recycled ... modities.

This is probably one of the ma... sons why he is one of the first ... nessmen to go in for garbage rec... as private enterprise.

"Manufacturers are not quite rea... it yet," he explains. He and othe... the recycling trade are also wond... how they might process part of ... output on the spot.

Recycling paper, for instance, co... converted into a solid fuel comp... in heating performance with brown ... briquettes.

This eco-fuel is due to be ma... tured at the Herten plant men... earlier. Herten, where *Mannesmann* ... lagenbau and Veba are the main ... tractors, is still being built.

Leonhard Spielho...

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 3 October ...)

Tourists blamed for plight of North Sea ecosystem

The North Sea cannot handle any more tourists if it is to survive ecologically, says a report by the advisory council on environmental affairs.

This seems surprising, given that long stretches of beach are often deserted, but the experts are adamant that any more holidaymakers would be just too much for the dunes, birds, the water and the other parts of the ecological system.

The report also criticises the amount of chemical waste and sewage pumped into the sea.

A Free Democrat MP, Torsten Wolfgramm, has for years been calling for a North Sea convention which would include not only current provisions to halt pollution, but powers to prosecute offenders.

He says the problem is not a lack of regulations but a lack of means of enforcement.

Herr Wolfgramm quoted the Romantic poet Heinrich Heine when he spoke in the Bundestag in connection with the council report.

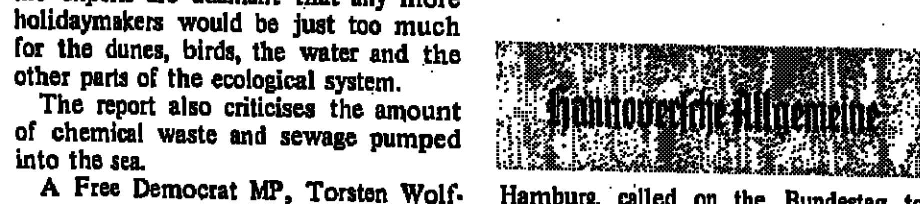
A century and a half algo Heine penned a few lines in his North Sea cycle about the sad lives led by the seagulls.

This passage ends on a confident note. Herr Wolfgramm hoped it might continue to be justified.

But he and previous speakers had cited so many discouraging statistics that confidence did not seem appropriate.

Christian Democrat Wolfgang von Geldern, for instance, said: "The North Sea's eco-system is threatened with irreversible damage."

Social Democrat Freimut Duve, from



Hamburg, called on the Bundestag to save the North Sea now.

Herr Wolfgramm added that: "We must all set aside any idea of allowing the North Sea to be further polluted."

Had the millions of holidaymakers who enjoy their annual holiday on the North Sea coast heard the Bundestag debate they would have been amazed.

They regularly feel the Dutch, German and Danish North Sea coast is a welcome break in natural surroundings. All that annoys them is the occasional lump of tar on the beach.

Not for a moment do they as much as suspect that they as holidaymakers contribute towards the threat to the survival of the North Sea as an ecological unit.

The ways in which they do so are outlined in the report.

The North Sea is a convenient waste disposal facility it says. Out of sight, out of mind: the amount it has to take is enormous.

Hamburg alone pumps so much sewage sludge into offshore waters that its annual contribution, in the form of metal waste, is 330 tonnes of iron, 40 tonnes of zinc, 20 tonnes of copper, 10 tonnes of lead and five tonnes of chromium.

It is scant consolation to learn that other countries are even worse offenders. Britain, for instance, accounts for 90 per cent of the sewage sludge that is pumped into the North Sea.

The report concludes that although the North Sea may not yet be in serious trouble parts of its coastal waters and river estuaries are already overpolluted.

So the experts feel the North Sea as a whole is seriously endangered.

There are nearly 50 international agreements designed to protect the seven seas in general and the North Sea in particular.

But more regulations are required on, for instance, pollution offenders who cross from one country or set of territorial waters to another.

There are companies in the Federal Republic of Germany which are no longer allowed to pump their effluent into German waters.

So they send it by truck to neighbouring Holland, from where it is pumped out to sea. So the effect is pretty much the same.

Herr Wolfgramm has taken the c... to heart despite coming from a par... Germany that is well inland.

But so far his proposal for a con... tion has met with little enthusiasm. ... is not because the idea is a bad one ... because people fail to take the prob... seriously.

In common with the general pu... many authorities and politicians have ... to realise that real danger is in ... offing unless ecology is given pr... over economy.

As the experts put it: "An envi... mental conservation policy for ... North Sea is still in its early days ... cause the position is not as a rule fe... be serious, with the result that co... hensive treatment is not deemed ne... sary."

Many Bonn politicians share ... view, as the Bundestag debate on ... report showed. A handful of specia... had the floor of the House virtually ... themselves as usual, exchanging ... and views with which they were ... acquainted.

Attendance was so poor that ... Duve began his speech with the c... ment that: "If we had left the North ... as empty as the Bundestag is at ... moment we would have no prob... with it."

The Bundestag transcript notes ... this comment was greeted with am... ment. But some people will have ... the fact that prompted it was less ... funny.

Rudolf Grossko...

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 3 October ...)

ARCHAEOLOGY

Roman secrets halt the march of progress

...ip road leading to a new section ... *Bundesstrasse* (National Highway) ...ar Ahrweiler, south of Bonn, has ...routed so archaeologists can take ... look at what promises to be one ... most important Ancient Roman ...er made north of the Alps.

...rst glance it looks as though two ...ouses have been left standing in ...iddle of the road. They are metal ... structures clad in transparent ...ng.

...y may be in the middle of the ...orks but they lie much lower than ...ew *Bundesstrasse*. Has a market ...er succeeded in holding the plan... ...t bay and stopped the roadbuilders ...ending the bulldozers in?

...t on closer examination the site includes two wooden huts for ...en and equipment and a caravan as ... office. This too is a building site, ... special one.

...e men in charge here are archaeo... ...s who have won their battle against ...uthorities responsible for roadbuild... ...d transport.

...e Rhineland-Palatinate Commissio... ...r Historic Monuments, or rather ... Koblenz office, is the agency that ...ought the mighty roar of construc... ...machinery to a halt.

...ple of broken pots was all it took ...ke them take up arms, just flat ...and tile a workman unearthed with ...

...uck would have it, his find was ...ately reported to the appropriate ...rities in Ahrweiler and Koblenz ...e tiles were felt to warrant send... ...archaeologists in to investigate with... ...ther delay.

...dworks have long been resumed ...e slip road was rerouted. As origi... ...planned it would have run right ...gh the dig. It now steers a respect... ...berth of the site.

...ial expectations have been ful... ... After 18 months' digging the ar... ...ologists have not only unearthed the ...ations of a Roman villa but also ... much of the walls to be still ...ing.

...lls still standing to a height of be... ...1.30 and 1.60 metres (4ft 3in and ...in) are unusual indeed for Roman ...s north of the Alps.

...most cases the foundations are all ...is left, and in the few instances ... a few bricks that were above ...nd-level are left standing they are in ... poor state that few inferences can ...awn.

...onstructions of what the buildings ... have looked like, or the visitor's ...imagination, are needed to gain any ... of the original structure.

...t so in Ahrweiler. The excavated ...s of the Roman villa stand firmly on ... foundations and are plain to see ... though it will be three or four ...s before excavation and restoration ...is completed.

...Archaeologists, students and interested ...mbers of the public the be able to ... along the hallways and corridors, ... through the individual rooms and ... out for themselves just what they ... have been like to live in 2,000 ...rs ago.

...You can see where the villa stood, ... many rooms it had and where they ... in relation to each other, what use they were put to and how comfortably the people who used them lived.

The remains owe their survival in this condition to their location on the side of a hill, the Silberberg, as the vineyard is known today.

It is on a fairly steep slope and when the villa was gutted by fire, probably in the fourth century AD, the ruins were gradually filled with loose stone that rolled down the hillside.

The loose stone kept coming, so that 1,600 years later the ruins were about three metres (10ft) under ground.

The Ahrweiler villa is remarkable in another respect too. Unlike any other Roman remains excavated north of the Alps, all the walls are plastered and painted.

Painted is to understate the decoration. The colour schemes show taste. They are a combination of rust red, dull yellow and black.

A number of painted surfaces have borders, others have ornaments such as painted candelabras and vines.

In the past similar digs have brought to light little more than signs of plaster and painting in the occasional corner of one room or another.

The sheer size of the villa also shows that the people who lived in it were well-to-do. The north-facing front of the house, now fully excavated, is 65 metres (213ft) long. It is about 35 metres (115ft) from front to back.

Outside the main building, adjoining it to the west, there was a bathroom remains of which have been definitely identified. But the bathroom is to be excavated last.

All the indications that have come to light so far in Ahrweiler leave no doubt whatever that the owner of the villa must have been a very rich and senior man in the Roman administration.

Experts rule out any possibility that he could have been a Romanised local. They feel he must have been either a civilian official or a staff officer of the Roman legion stationed in Bonn.

The archaeologist in charge of the dig says he was probably a Roman general based in Bonn. Roman officers were not all rough diamonds; many were urbane and civilised.

So the good taste shown by the Ahrweiler general is by no means out of keeping with his station.

One of the finest and most valuable finds at Ahrweiler is an example of Ancient Roman graffiti, engraved with a stylus in a section of brownish-red plaster.

Qui bene non didicit, carullus esse solet, the scribe wrote: "He who does not learn well will stay a blockhead."

Carullus (blockhead) was a fairly vulgar word, but the smooth pentameter of the verse and the accomplished calligraphy show the writer to have been an educated person.

Let us assume it was written by a father as a reminder to his lazy son. The son was certainly not too lazy to reply. His graffiti is written underneath.

But it is written in such poor Latin and full of such glaring grammatical and spelling mistakes that one can well understand the father's admonition.

It has been deciphered, however and reads: "The whip of cruel Gratius has given me my learning."

These graffiti are a sensation. Nowhere, not even in Pompeii, have graffiti been so completely preserved or so meaningful.

Other interesting finds in the Roman villa on the banks of the River Ahr include almost unscathed parts of the central heating, a small oven for the housewife or kitchen staff and a larger, dome-shaped ground-level stove that is felt to have been a pottery kiln.

One of the most interesting paintings depicts a man in prayer or performing an act of sacrifice. Alongside him is one side of a larger-than-life figure from the shoulder down.

The archaeologists have only just started excavating the remainder of this wall, so another person making a sacrifice is expected to come to light.

The archaeologists are sure the villa was built in the first century AD, and probably on top of an even older building. It was in use until about the middle of the third century AD.

Then it was vacated, probably in connection with the military response to revolts in the northern provinces of Roman Gaul.

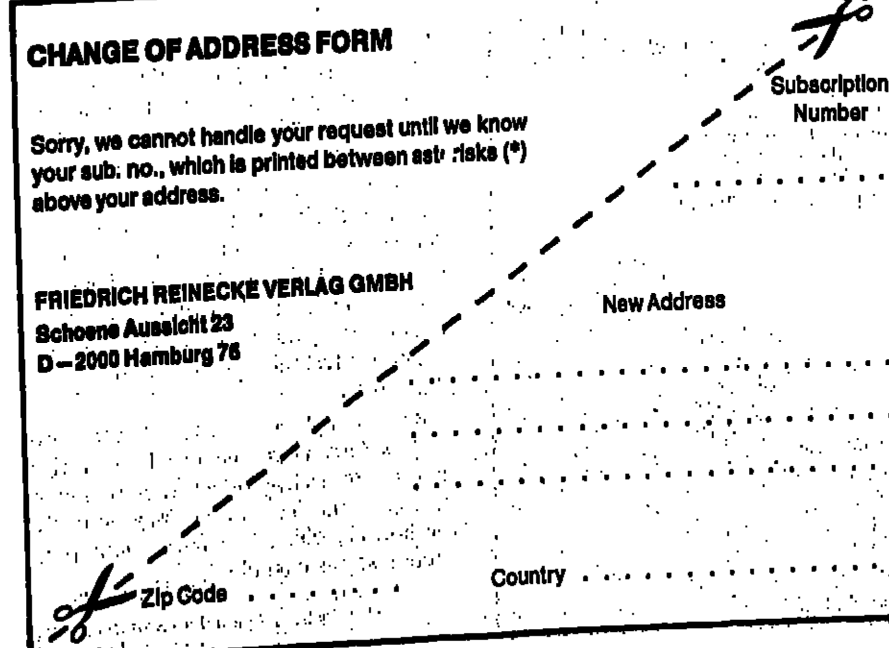
The villa was finally abandoned in the fourth century AD when the forebears of the Germans brought massive pressure to bear on the *Limes*, or fortifications along the eastern border of the Roman Empire in this part of the world.

The building was gutted by fire and the Silberberg mercifully slipped a veil of loose stone over the ruins.

Excavation and restoration will take several more years but eventually a museum is to be built over the entire site, which will then not only be protected but also be open to visitors.

Georg Krieger

(Rheinische Merkur/Christ und Welt, 2 October 1981)



Eppler, rebel

Continued from page 5

teacher's sons. They do not get on with each other at all.

Eppler may be strongly influenced by his rivalry with the Chancellor, but that is by no means the sole yardstick of his relationship with the SPD.

He feels an emotional affinity with Willy Brandt, who in the past has invariably afforded him protection (although not always approving of what he did).

Herr Brandt has always felt the SPD as a party claiming to represent the entire people and not just a single class or group must be able to accommodate a man of Eppler's mould, even in its leadership.

In 1974 Eppler resigned from the Bonn Cabinet, sick and tired of continual slings and arrows aimed at him by Helmut Schmidt.

But he assured Willy Brandt at the time that although he was resigning from the government he proposed to remain entirely loyal to the party.

He would say so today too, since he still feels the SPD is his political home and wants it to stay his home. But the number of Social Democrats who would believe such an assurance is steadily declining.

There can be no doubt that solidarity, the SPD virtue, is being increasingly put to the test by Erhard Eppler. Many comrades prefer not to side with him. He has lately been somewhat out on a limb on the national executive.

But the 1979 SPD conference in Berlin showed there are still sections of the party, especially left-wingers, who are willing to side with Eppler and against Schmidt.

Erhard Eppler mustered 170 delegates in support of a resolution to think again about nuclear power (and to do so with a view to scaling down its development).

A majority of 243 sided with the Chancellor, but as Eppler said at the time: "Not every victory is a winner, Helmut."

Herr Schmidt cannot be said to have won yet. As Eppler also says, when he yields on one point, he does so only to take a stand on another issue.

He is now mustering support for a fresh trial of strength at next year's SPD conference in Munich. The issue at stake is the Nato missile modernisation resolution.

Many SPD leaders, and also rank-and-file members, have begun to suspect that Eppler plans, despite protestations to the contrary, to make personal capital out of the peace movement rather than capitalise on it on behalf of the party.

This suspicion is not entirely unfounded, given that Erhard Eppler feels the SPD is running the risk of going to the dogs in loyal boredom, as he puts it.

So it would be altogether in keeping with this interpretation for him to seek outside approval, especially as he has redefined the concept of power since withdrawing from the corridors of political power.

"Political power is shaped and reshaped at the grass roots where views are created and changed," he says.

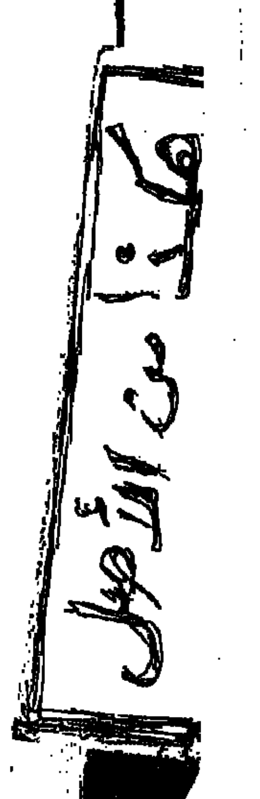
This is the power he would nowadays like to share. It is why he feels he is now more powerful than he was as a Cabinet Minister in Bonn.

"Power," he says, "is for me the opportunity of shaping society."

No-one who talks in this way can be a mere dreamer. He is a seeker after power, but counter-power.

Heinz Verfürth

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 3 October 1981)



■ MEDICINE

Fear at heart of wide range of conditions

Science has so far been unable to come up with a clear definition of fear. All sorts of emotions are lumped together: fear, fright, horror, anxiety and dread.

Fear is an unpleasant emotional sensation, mostly combined with physical symptoms and triggered by a feeling of being threatened — either with reason or without.

What one cannot define can naturally not be measured. As a result, figures on occasional fears and anxiety in otherwise healthy people range between 10 and 40 per cent for both adults and children. But even taking the lower figure, it would mean that millions of Germans suffer from it.

Many researchers differentiate between fear and apprehension. Fear is the reaction to a threatening object or a dangerous situation. Apprehension, on the other hand, is uncertain, has no outside reason and nobody can put his finger on it.

And what one cannot identify makes one particularly insecure. It is therefore this uncertain fear that is particularly debilitating and nerve-wracking.

Fears and phobias or anxieties can take on many forms. In the magazine *Medica* (8/1981) Dr Volker Faust and Professor Günter Hole of Ulm University's Psychiatric Clinic in Ravensburg describe the following symptoms: inner unrest, nervousness, tension, a feeling of claustrophobia and of being at the mercy of something undefinable, fatigue, mock activity, a feeling of jitters with the attendant desire to run away and psychomotoric breakdowns that can result in a state resembling paralysis.

There is an even wider range of psychosomatic disorders resulting from fear, all sorts of heart problems, breathing difficulties, a choking feeling in the throat, sweating, lack of appetite (and sometimes ravenous hunger), stomach and intestinal disorders (more especially diarrhoea), diminishing sexual performance, irregular menstruation, an excessive need to urinate, insomnia, nightmares, trembling, muscle tension, "rubbery knees," a general feeling of weakness and dizziness. The eye pupils tend to be enlarged; the mouth dry, the skin pale and the blood pressure rises.

These feelings of fear usually increase as a person grows older. But they exist even in infants.

There are specific — mostly psychosomatic — complaints in children ranging from infants to puberty age that are clearly due to fear.

Most fears and anxieties are understandable and make sense. People who have not learned to fear something will soon pay the price.

But apart from such everyday fears as those of darkness, mysterious rooms, animals, illness, loneliness, school examinations and bosses there are also pathological fears,.

They include neuroses, ill humour, alienation and, above all, phobias such as undefined fears of enclosed rooms, certain places, bridges and towers. These phobias can be bad enough to incapacitate. Fear as part of schizophrenia or endogenous depression can be a particular torture. This usually goes hand-in-hand with bizarre moods and ideas for which there is no rational explanation.

Many fears have physical reasons, as in the case of alcoholic delirium, cerebral sclerosis and epilepsy.

Less dramatic but equally frightening is the fear experienced by people suffering from hyperthyroidism, angina pectoris and above all those who have experienced a heart attack. But here the pain is frequently such as to gain the upper hand over fear.

Accidents also trigger fear in the split second before they occur.

This frequently results in the so-called "review of life" in which the whole past is seen like a kaleidoscope unfolding at enormous speed.

Fear and apprehension following disasters and extreme stress can easily be understood. Such disasters can be anything. For instance, a mine cave-in, a tropical storm, a fire in a theatre, the sinking of a ship, volcanos and, above all, earthquakes.

But the panic this triggers has undergone changes in the past decades: hysteria and panic reactions have become rarer while paleness, goose pimples, shivers, heart sensations, cold sweat, vomiting and the need to evacuate bowels and bladder have remained unchanged.

An interesting phenomenon in the first days after the shock caused by a disaster is the atmosphere of general fraternising, the welling up of goodness and helpfulness and the need to communicate.

But this never lasts for more than two weeks and American literature refers to these people as 10-day saints.

Fear of psychological, physical or political terror is on the rise.

Those familiar with history do not believe that there is more evil in our day and age than in former times.

Yet it is easy to succumb to this impression because world-wide telecommunications carry bad news into every living room.

Marc Auerbach/
deutscher forschungsdienst
(Der Tagesspiegel, 3 October 1981)

Insulin pum for diabetic

Doctors in Munich have inse insulin pump in a diabetic p

Similar operations were per about the same time in France an tria.

Together they represent a through in the treatment of diabete

The Munich patient, a 52-y teaching nun, recovered so well th has returned to work.

The surgeons at the Munich mu al hospital were headed by Pr Helmut Mehnert.

The pump (approximately the a cigarette pack) was implanted the right breast.

From there, a thin pipe leads vein to which the insulin is fed appropriate computer-controlled r

The surgeon stressed that this tirely new territory and that th devices that have been implanted designed by Siemens, are not yet to go into mass production.

The pump provides the body w actly the required quantity of th saving substance.

The patient can increase the d she wants to, for instance after me

The Hoechst pharmaceuticals pany has developed a special hi concentrated insulin that remains at body temperature and that is paired by shaking.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 1 Octob

New thoughts about the human brain

Medicine is on the threshold of a new type of brain research, says *Professor Herbert Haug, head of the* anatomy department of Lübeck medical school.

He had found that those parts of the brain which convert perceptory sensations into conscious thought virtually do not age at all.

The cerebrum, in other words that part of the brain that converts initially unconscious sensations such as sensory perception relating to the environment into conscious thought, shrinks with age. This has been known for a long time.

But, says Professor Haug, this shrinkage applies only to the frontal part of the human cerebrum while the parietal section does not.

The parts of the brain that produce new thought begin their aging process at the age of 60 or 65.

"Our observations so far have led us to the conclusion that the aging brain should be exercised as much as possible", he says.

In the course of his research he has examined some 70 brains of people who died between the ages of 25 and 111.

As he sees it, medicine is on the threshold of a new type of brain research. Every part of the brain must be examined separately because applying individual segments to the whole, as was done in the past, is no longer relevant because certain sections of the brain do not suffer from any dissipation whatsoever while others begin their aging process at the age of 30.

Tübingen neuropathologist Professor Wolfgang Schlote concentrates his research work on the fat pigments of nerve cells.

"The changes that take place in the brain tissue in the process of aging are well researched. But we frequently don't know what these changes mean," he says.

Thus, for instance, it has hitherto been assumed that lipofuscin, a brown pigment that is found in various tissues and that increases in volume in the course of aging, is a damaging substance that hampers the metabolism of nerve cells.

"In the course of our research work," says Professor Schlote, "we have found that lipofuscin exists in the cells of infants and that it can therefore not be regarded as a product of aging.

"Instead, the substance is a physiological part of the cell whose function it is to absorb harmful byproducts of the metabolism. If this mechanism fails to function, nerve cells die, leading to a malfunctioning of the central system which must eventually neurological disorders."

Modern research into senility h particularly intensive and it now ly held that a clear concept on th thology of senility has emerged.

The Basle neuropathologist W Meier-Ruge considers that senility sentially a disorder of the choliner system.

This is the system that ensures transmission of central brain imp and is instrumental in memory proc — above all in the inner cerebrum.

Senility is not an automatic o disorder but a general degenerative dition which is partially hereditary incidence of senility is particularly in families with a mongoloid ground and lymphatic leukemia.

Various pharmacological co have been developed in order to senility — not to be confused with of memory — in its early stage.

These patients suffer from me ism disorders and hence from ener disorders in the brain.

All this leads to a lessening of lectual performance in the aging

One approach, says Professor M Ruge, is to stimulate the choliner processes — as for instance by re those enzymes that break down cholin.

Another possibility would be prove the energy metabolism brain by developing drugs that the effectiveness of acetylcholin.

Clinical and pharmacological results give rise to the hope cholinergenic system can be influ and energised and that senility early stage can thus be treated.

But it is likely to take several before suitable drugs become availa

Margot Sai
deutscher forschun
(Die Welt, 3 Octob

■ SOCIETY

The day Ma Dhyan found true happiness



During the evening of 26 September, Ma Dhyan had a fleeting feeling of happiness. It came as two ushers carried in the *Bhagwan's* saffron coloured chair and placed it under the guru's portrait.

The throng of 1,000 gathered in the hall jumped up and started to chant and dance ecstatically, becoming louder and faster.

In front of the crowd 100 people wore expressions of beatitude as they shed their novice status to become full-fledged *sannyasin*, disciples of the Bhagwan movement.

"It's exactly like in Poona. You let yourself go in a common frenzy of happiness. It's paradise," said Ma Dhyan.

The paradise that weekend was not in India but in Erding, a small town some 30 kilometres north of Munich. The followers of Shree Rajneesh here had invited all comers to take part in what they called the Rajneesh sannyasin festival, a "nonstop happening" of music, meditation, dance and person-to-person contact.

Close to 3,000 people followed the call in a sea of saffron, red and purple, all of them hoping to experience the feeling Ma Dhyan described as something close to paradise.

But the initiation of the new Sannyasin was more like a high school graduation ceremony. The transcendental, meditative and religious aspects were engulfed by what can only be described as a folk festival, complete with ample beer and food.

It hardly mattered that most of the new disciples had never as much as seen the Bhagwan in person. The whole mood belied the contention that it is impossible to nurture the illusions of another life in this middle class rural environment.

It is anything but easy to understand this movement. What did transpire in Erding is that this phenomenon is no religion and even less a youth sect (the average age of the members is about 30) nor is it a form of psychotherapy.

It can best be described as a blend of all these elements, a cross between commune, church and carnival.

Numerous chats with the participants confirm that the motivating force is a "new introspection" resulting from alienation from nature, the destruction of the environment and the feeling of being the loser in the battle against the ills of Western civilisation.

Says Deepam, 24, a former conscientious objector and now an activist in leftist groupings: "You can no longer change the conditions in which we live, so you must change yourself."

The obvious reaction is to look to the East in the quest for an answer to the question of the deeper meaning of life.

But what happens when our own problems and worries can no longer be viewed from the distance resulting from life in another culture?

All these *sannyasin* have little choice but to talk themselves into believing that they are on the right path. They exercise auto-suggestion as a vehicle with which to escape fear and wake up in an environment that is anything but transcendental.

Now that the ashram in Poona has been disbanded and the Bhagwan has decided to move to America, all the *swamis* and *mas* — male and female *sannyasin* — have returned to a country that is plagued by squatters, the arms race and visions of a Third World War.

Must this narcissistic withdrawal into oneself, this search for "energy" and good "vibrations" not appear utopian and curious to the outsider?

This "total relaxation in here and now," as the best-selling Poona author Jürg-Andrees Elten promises the true believer, this "living for the moment" is tantamount to negating "tomorrow" and all responsibility in general.

The press officer of the movement in Bavaria, Swami Anandesh, stresses that "we are apolitical."

Some sidelights: a man in a wheelchair bogs down in the soft marshy ground. The motor is simply too weak. Many helping hands push him to his destination. There are embraces and tenderness from those who pass by. You can see the amazement in the handicapped man's eyes.

Yemil, 18, became a *sannyasin* at the age of 16. Her mother had opted out and gone to Poona where she remained as an enthusiastic disciple, leaving Yemil alone in the apartment paid for by her divorced husband, the girl's father.

Yemil longed to be with her mother and no longer alone. So she, too, to Poona and became a sannyasin. Said she: "We can only help others once we have helped ourselves."

And a look at the cash registers and the stalls shows that they know how to look after themselves. When it comes to economic matters, the Bhagwan disciples most certainly think of tomorrow.

Admission to the weekend festival cost DM45 and a cup of coffee and a roll DM2. And there are many other ways of making money with the Bhagwan such as photographs, postcards and stationery with Shree Rajneesh portraits



Discovering nirvana

(Photo: ...

(DM10 for 50 sheets). And then there are cassette recordings of his speeches and his books (some 350 titles) to be had at a price.

But then, the movement needs the money. It has been charged by the Bhagwan with the task of creating an independent Rajneesh City, an enclave in Rotorange which, as the Bhagwan puts it, will be the "fulfilment of the dream of a better world."

Back to reality: Chaitanya Hari — formerly Georg Deuter, a music critic — plays flowing and crystal-clear melodies on his flute. The listeners, their eyes closed, sway as if in trace. There is plenty of time to ponder what has made the Bhagwan movement so great.

Anandesh, the press officer, has an answer: "The media, with their many detailed decriptions of our way of life, our freedom and our generosity."

So is this combination of the interest of the media and Far Eastern laisser-faire the magic formula of success?

In any event, the local authorities took their precautions to stop the anticipated "infringement of morals and prevent sexual acts", as the official warning puts it, threatening fines of up to DM10,000.

But the warning was unnecessary. Nothing happened and the model of a better world functioned so well as to baffle the police.

Deuter's meditation music could ... heard outside the tent and there was ... all-pervading atmosphere of gentle, pe... ceful discipline.

So have these refugees from civilis... tion who have opted out exchanged the constrictions of our Western World ... the constrictions of this alternative way of life?

Why are rationally brought up and in... telligent people prepared to sacrifice so much?

Anupam, 44, a former protestant cle... gyman and now in charge of therapy groups, has a ready answer: "You can leave the movement any time you want to."

Asked why the movement nee... authority at all, he said: "You must ha... somebody to guide you. It's like in the mountains where you need somebody who knows the way."

The mountain guide is Bhagwan.

Asked about the essence of the Bhagwan philosophy, Anandesh sai... "You must accept yourself and se... everything in a positive light."

Chimed in Anorakta: "You must say yes to everything."

Another disciple added: "I would accept death and say yes to it."

Achim Zons

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 September 1981)

Dropping out of the family row

Young people who opt out of society to seek an alternative way of life usually do so after a severe family dispute.

A third of those who have joined alternative groupings say their parental home was full of conflict. Half break with the family.

Fifteen per cent of those between 14 and 21 reject the political and social order. But only one in ten approves of violence to achieve political aims.

These are findings of a survey by the Bonn Health Ministry and presented to the Cabinet and the Bundestag.

Conflicts in the home, the study says, are not due to any particularly authoritarian attitude by the parents. They result from the fact that the parents are unable to provide their children with orientation aids — especially in conflict situations.

Most of the young people in alternative groupings have a high standard of education compared with the national average.

Many are university dropouts, though there are also some jobless and juveniles who have been involved with drugs.

It must, however, be taken into account that the nation-wide standard of education has improved and that the number of people with higher vocational or academic education has risen from 7.3 per cent in 1960 to 25.1 per cent today.

The study stresses that the alternative movement is extremely heterogeneous.

There are those who want to promote environmental protection and fight what they call pointless economic growth; and there are those who want to fight for civil rights and against "career bans".

There are also elements of neo-Marxism, pacifism, women's lib and gay ideology, buttressed by the squatters, communes and —as of late — an "alternative press".

According to the study, 12 per cent of university students are connected with the alternative movement in one way or another. In Frankfurt, this figure is 2... per cent.

Yet the number of university students who draw a clear line between their al... ternative way of life and the "majority culture" (which is naturally seen in a negative light) is less than 5 per cent.

Some 80 to 90 per cent of university students at least tolerate alternative ideas.

Some 15 per cent of the nation's young people between the ages of 14 and 21 have alternative inclinations that do not fit into the model of an affluent democracy and they do not conform to established society.

These youngsters reject the entire system of the Federal Republic of Germany in varying degrees.

This 15 per cent means 1.3 million people whose political inclinations tend towards the Greens (environmentalists) and similar groupings. Ideologically, they see themselves as ranging from left to extreme left.

Siegfried Michel

(Nordwest Zeitung, 30 September 1981)

...ORT

Lots of possibilities for manager Weisweiler



Hennes Weisweiler ... cat still in the bag.

(Photo: Nordbild)

...fter Allgemeine

... manager Hennes Weisweiler ...ately plans to return from America ...e he has served 12 months of ... year contract with New York ...

...is chary of saying when. "My ... has another year to run," he ... I can well see myself staying ...year.

...on the other hand I would like, ...at may, to be at the World Cup ...ent in Spain next summer. I ...n at every World Cup tourna... ...ce 1958."

...due to give a lecture to a me... ...ngress on the advancement of ...occer players, which is a topic ...ch he must surely have some... ...say on the strength of practical ...nce.

...ay also be covering the World ...s newspaper and writing a book ...tournament.

...t's soccer season will still be in ...ing in the United States, so ...er would still be under contract ...

...eiler, who is nobody's fool ...it comes to tactics, will only say ...ntracts can be discussed.

...e'd be ill advised to weaken his ...ing position by prematurely an... ...g his intention of quitting, as he ...ws.

...the time being," he says, letting ...at out of the bag, "I am here to ...

...eiler is more to the point on ...pute with Chinaglia, the club's ...-scorer. The Italian striker has ...d Weisweiler in public and said ...not be playing for Cosmos while ...eiler is still in charge of the team. ...has overstepped the mark there," ...eisweiler, who has been given ...backing by Cosmos president Er...

...season Weisweiler managed a ...s team that won the US cham... ...p title. This season thev lost to ...o on penalties in the final.

...eisweiler has a fine track record ...n York. "I am willing to carry on ...g with Chinaglia," he says. "I ...o intention of sidelining him de... ...hat he says."

...Weisweiler is having trouble with ...member of his playing staff again. ...d trouble with Netzer in Mön... ...adbach, trouble with Cruyff in ...na and trouble with Overath in ...e.

...! He has an answer at the ready. ...s, he says, he expects the stars to ... their best and does not blame ...ser lights when team's perfor... ...e does not measure up to expecta...

...a run-of-the-mill player always ...of his best, Weisweiler says; it is ...his talent that is limited: ...have the guts to call on the stars to ... their best."

...nz Beckenbauer? Weisweiler great... ...ated "Kaiser" Franz's decision to ... Cosmos and come to terms with ...mburg.

...d Schuster? Weisweiler does not deny that he was keen to sign the Cologne star now under contract to Barcelona at one stage. But not any more; Schuster would, he feels, have been another star with whom he would probably have had trouble.

Next season Cosmos, whose stars include Neeskens and Carlos Alberto, will be signing a well-known Brazilian soccer international.

In show biz soccer (Cosmos are owned by Warner Communications) it is less the strongest than the most attractive team that counts.

America's major ethnic groups must if at all possible each be represented by a star of their own. The problem, Weisweiler says, is one of reconciling their playing styles.

Show biz is also a problem for the serious club coach. There are times, he says, when the show is more important than winning.

This lay at the root of the dispute with Chinaglia, who wanted to carry on scoring one goal after another.

This was not to say that US soccer was just light entertainment; it had long ceased to be only that, as was evident from the fact that players such as Bernd Hölzenbein and Ivan Buljan were having difficulties getting used to the style.

How did he feel about losing to Chicago in the final? "Disappointed, of course. We were all disappointed. But I knew Chicago was going to be the toughest customer. They have five Germans in the team and German soccer is much more unpredictable than, say, British."

Soccers back in Germany? Why yes? he did not mind admitting it still fascinated him. New York was fascinating too, of course. He had never regretted coming to terms with Cosmos.

Life in New York was an incognito life among friendly people with no commitments weighing heavily on him. But he was too old to sped the rest of his life there.

Weisweiler is 61 and has just become a father. So "too old" does not refer to his family life. It does not refer to his career in football either.

He would be happy to give Bundesliga soccer in Germany annother go — "in a country where football is indisputably No. 1 and not, as in America, No. 4 or 5."

He would very much like a job as team manager along British lines, which was more than the corresponding job with a German league club, and certainly more than just a coaching appointment.

Could he imagine landing this job in his native Cologne? Hennes Weisweiler is reputed to be a keen card player. Here too he plays his cards close to the chest.

"I am all in favour of Cologne, of course," he says, "but Munich and Hamburg are fine cities too."

He grins a Rhenish grin to show that ho is not yet seriously angling for a job in any of the three cities. There are other cities he has not mentioned, for that matter.

Weisweiler is clearly a master tactician, but he is also no rookie when it comes to strategic thinking.

Later, as we walk round the synthetic pitch in the Giants' stadium, Weisweiler makes a few more general observations.

Look, he says, seating room only. All stands and no terraces. They should do that back home. Where people are seated there are no brawls.

He spent 11 years coaching Mönchengladbach and felt at the time that the job was absolutely ideal. In retrospect he realised he should have switched clubs sooner and more often.

After so many seasons with a single club one tended to settle into a routine. Everything went too smoothly, whereas one really ought to call onself into question and make heavier demands on oneself more often.

One ought to have to adjust more often to other people and other mentalities, he said.

New York seems to have done Weisweiler from Cologne a power of good. If he does leave Cosmos ahead of time he will definitely not leave as a loser.

Klaus Wiborg

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 October 1981)

Basketball's lady with the whistle

Silvia Otto, 5ft 4in, is Germany's first and so far only Grade A woman referee in men's Bundesliga basketball. What she lacks in feet and inches she makes up in authority.

She has to. It is not just roses for the referee and a separate changing room. When she took up whistling she soon realised every game was a special challenge.

She was lucky in taking up refereeing ("to keep in touch with the game now my playing days are over") at a time when referees, coaches and players were less given to viewing each other with continual criticism.

But whistling is a tightrope walk. Time and again thousands of eyes look her way and wait for her to blow, either expectantly or fearfully. Time and again she senses the aggression focussed on her.

That goes for male referees too, of course, but she feels even more alone out there: "I am well aware that my performance is viewed much more critically. People are prepared to accept a good showing but woe betide you if you put a foot wrong."

She is probably her own most exacting critic. "I made two really bad decisions today," she says.

Yet the basketball giants give credit where credit is due. "She always takes a clear decision," one captain says, looking down at her (but only physically, not figuratively).

Most male referees, although by no means all, readily accept her. After a moment's surprise most players do too.



Silvia Otto ... tightrope walk.

(Photo: Horstmüller)

She does little talking and gets little backchat from the players. Instead she gets and gives more looks. "Look 'em straight in the eye," she says. "That's most important."

She also sets great store by politeness, never handing a player the ball without a "please" and "thank you." She is demonstratively courteous and an atmosphere of courtesy reigns.

But only in the arena, not necessarily among the audience. The ref always comes in for criticism and Frau Otto reckons she gets more than her fair share.

"It goes in one ear and out the other," she says. Catcalls do not worry her in the least; justified criticism hurts all the more.

This includes criticism from her husband and children, all of whom know what they are talking about. Her husband is a basketball referee, her three sons and a daughter play (and the sons are graded referees too).

They all greatly admire her and the family keep fit together by playing table tennis and skiing, with cross-country runs and gymnastics.

Playing basketball is hard work; so is refereeing it, and Frau Otto enjoys no special privileges, apart from having to run 2,000, not 3,000 metres in her annual referee's test.

"I find it hard work covering the distance too," she readily admits. This season, her second in Bundesliga basketball, will be her last.

She is 50 (but doesn't look it) and that means retirement for a senior basketball referee. But maybe others will follow in her footsteps.

Christiane Moravetz

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 October 1981)